



**Michele Bischof**, Chair  
**Jason Hoffman**, Vice-Chair  
**Chris Maiers**, SWIC  
**Curtis “Wally” Walser**, Deputy SWIC

**Michele Bischof**  
City of Des Moines Fire Dept.

**Eric Dau**  
Clinton County Communications

**Blake DeRouchey**  
Iowa Homeland Security &  
Emergency Management

**Dennis Hart**  
Department of Management

**Jason Hill**  
City of West Des Moines

**Jason Hoffman**  
Carroll County 911 Coordinator

**Chris Maiers**  
SWIC - ISICSB

**Gerard Meyers**  
Department of Public Safety

**William McLain**, Master Sergeant  
Iowa National Guard/Dept. of  
Defense

**Shawn Wagner**  
ISICSB

**Curtis “Wally” Walser**  
City of Cedar Rapids Fire Dept.

**Jim Wittenwyler**  
Department of Public Safety

**Bob Younie**  
Department of Transportation

**Vacant**  
Governor’s Office

**RIC Leaders**  
**Rob Dehnert**, RIC 1 Chair  
**Jason Hoffman**, RIC 1 Vice-Chair  
**Brian Blodgett**, RIC 2 Chair  
**Joel Rohne**, RIC 2 Vice-Chair  
**Corey Trucke**, RIC 3 Chair  
**Shawn Olson**, RIC 3 Vice-Chair  
**Larry Hurst**, RIC 4 Chair  
**Mike Jensen**, RIC 4 Vice-Chair  
**Larry Smith**, RIC 5 Chair  
**Vacant**, RIC 5 Vice-Chair  
**Vacant**, RIC 6 Chair  
**Steph Coffey**, RIC 6 Vice-Chair

**ISICSB FirstNet Broadband Committee Meeting**  
Iowa Department of Public Safety (DPS)  
Ole O. Roe Learning Center (Room 122)  
215 E. 7<sup>th</sup> St., Des Moines, IA 50319  
Tuesday, March 10, 2020

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## FIRSTNET MEETING MINUTES

### Call to Order/Conference Line

Meeting called to order by Chair Bischof at 9:00 a.m.

Conference telephone line was open for public listening and board members who were unable to attend.

**Committee Members Present In-Person:** David Barnett, Michele Bischof, Blake DeRouchey, Chris Maiers, Curtis “Wally” Walser

**Committee Members Present on Conference Line:** Brian Blodgett, Rob Dehnert, Jason Hoffman, Bob Younie

**Committee Member Regrets:** None.

**Guests on Conference Line:** Mary Harp, Kyle Richardson

**Committee Members Absent:** Steph Coffey, Eric Dau, Dennis Hart, Jason Hill, Larry Hurst, Mike Jensen, Gerard Meyers, William McLain, Shawn Olson, Joel Rohne, Larry Smith, Corey Trucke, Shawn Wagner, Jim Wittenwyler

**Guest Attendees:** Hollie Davidson



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## Welcome Remarks – Chair Bischof

Chair Bischof welcomed the group and introductions of those present in-person and those on the conference line were made.

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## Review Action Items from Previous Meeting

### a. Update on “Whose on FirstNet?” database (Brian Blodgett)

1. Eight agency submissions as of date
2. Link posted on ISICSB website
3. Request to mention the database at future RIC Outreach events and meetings

### b. Update on Boulder Lab visit (Chair Bischof)

1. Attendees included Michele Bischof, Chris Maiers, Hollie Davidson, Jason Hoffman, David Barnett, Kyle Richardson, Danny Noble
2. 1<sup>st</sup> day was spent at the Public Safety Research Center
  - a) Demos included future virtual reality tools currently being developed
  - b) Group expressed that there needs to be more research and development regarding issues involved with day-to-day operations
  - c) Application development was discussed
3. 2<sup>nd</sup> day was spent at the FirstNet Lab
  - a) Group was able to see the lab for testing Priority & Preemption (PPE) – included demonstration of PPE in action
  - b) Presentation regarding FirstNet deployable and the process for requesting and planning

### c. FirstNet Call Center update (David Barnett)

1. AT&T is working on streamlining the process through the following:
  - a) Incorporating the FirstNet Assist App to allow for reporting issues directly from the app rather than being required to call the center
  - b) Working to create a “click to chat” option within the FirstNet Assist App which will also eliminate the need to call the center

### d. 911 FirstNet Host Remote update (Blake DeRouchey)

1. In-progress
2. Working towards getting necessary equipment

#### **e. Discuss questions for Andy Sackreiter**

1. Andy Sackreiter is scheduled to attend the May 2020 FirstNet Committee Meeting
  2. Questions to address with Andy:
    - a) Where do we stand with Band-14 call hand-off?
    - b) Where do we stand with the US Cellular roaming agreement?
    - c) Where do we stand with 5G for Iowa?
    - d) What is the plan for tower buildout within the Des Moines Metro area?
    - e) Update on buildout plans for southwestern Iowa
    - f) Are there plans for filling gaps in coverage throughout the State of Iowa?
    - g) Solution to accessibility of viewing coverage buildout maps
    - h) Discuss high-power equipment and devices
    - i) Discuss response to any future outages such as the one that occurred in the southeastern portion of the US
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#### **FirstNet Update (Kyle Richardson)**

1. Continue to work on transitioning to the black sim cards
  2. FirstNet is addressing issues regarding day-to-day operational research
  3. Update and discussion regarding high-power user equipment:
    - a) Increase in maximum transit power of user equipment by six times exclusively on Band-14 (Kyle to report back on exact watts)
    - b) Working with Assured Wireless to develop official offering
    - c) Extend rural cell range and coverage
    - d) Increase in-building and underground coverage in urban areas
  4. There was discussion regarding LTE interference issues
  5. Focus group has been developed to analyze data and determine future FirstNet needs
  6. Kyle to report back at April meeting regarding data and information findings that has been gathered from the RIC Outreach events
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#### **AT&T Update (David Barnett)**

##### **a. Tower Site Update**

- a) New towers since the February 2020 meeting include the following sites all with Band-14: Iowa – Corwith/Kanahwa, Anamosa, Wesley, and Zeiring; Illinois – Morrison; Minnesota – Dunnell and Fairmont.
  - b) Iowa currently has over 11,000 FirstNet subscribers
  - c) Over 2.61 million square miles of sites with LTE coverage across the nation
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## SWIC Report – (Chris Maiers)

SWIC Maiers reports that he continues to receive and answer questions regarding FirstNet coverage throughout the State of Iowa.

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## Questions/Comments

Discussion took place regarding a recent FirstNet/AT&T outage in the southeastern portion of the US and how this was handled. Kyle Richardson reports the outage was isolated to a single data center in the southeastern part of the country. With this outage, data service was affected for some FirstNet subscribers. Investigation into the outage and what the cause was is ongoing.

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## New Action Items

1. Update on “Whose on FirstNet” database (Brian Blodgett, Joel Rohne)
  2. FirstNet Call Center update (David Barnett)
  3. 911 FirstNet host remote update (Blake DeRouchey)
  4. Discuss questions for Andy Sackreiter
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## Next Meeting

**Tuesday, April 14, 2020 @ 10:00 am**

**Location: \*\*\* This meeting will be held by conference line only \*\*\***

**Conference Call Number:**

(866) 685-1580

**Conference Code:** 8617016175

Follow instructions to MUTE your line

## Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 10:07 a.m.